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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

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CONTENTS

Page

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

World Production of the Principal Hard Fibers Near Prewar... 575
Cotton-Price Quotations on World Markets 604
U.S. Cotton Exports Lower in March 500
Netherlands Cotton Imports Decline 602

FATS AND OILS

World Peanut Production Below Postwar Average 568
French Morocco Depends Mostly on Imported Vegetable Oil and Oilseeds 583
Sweden's 1950 Fats and Oils Production Up 20 Percent........ 584
Indonesian Copra Exports, March 1951 585
Philippine April Copra Exports High of Year................. 586
Antarctic Whale and Sperm Oil Production Totals 401,050 tons in 1950-51 586
Guatemala's Production of Fats and Oils Decreases in 1950... 588
Italian Oilseed Production Unchanged in 1950 589

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

Argentina Increases Price to Grain Producers 598
U.S. Rice Exports Decline 599

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Milk Production and Utilization in Principal Producing Countries in 1950 572
Argentine Meat Situation Under New Protocol to Anglo-Argentine Trade Agreement 591
U.K.- Uruguayan Meat Negotiators Reach Agreement 593
Tinplate Use Permitted in Netherlands for Condensed Milk for Export 593
U.S. Imports Dutch Eggs 593
Turkish Poultry Situation 593
Wool Production in Peru Increases.......................... 594

TOBACCO AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS

South Africa's Consumption, Stocks, Exports Higher; Imports Lower 595
Canary Islands' Tobacco Imports Lower 596
Dominican Republic's Tobacco Production Revised Upward; Exports Lower 597
Indonesia's Embargo on Coffee Exports Lifted 597
Outlook Favorable for Brazil's 1951-52 Cacao Crop 597

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

1950-51 Bean Production Drops 5 Percent in 51 Countries 578

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

LATE NEWS

The Philippine Government announced on May 11 that a large number of commodities, including raw cotton, would be removed from import restrictions. It stated that the financial position of the Islands has improved sufficiently to allow a freer flow of imports in order to relieve some domestic hardship.

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The Government of Argentina announced on May 10, 1951, that exports of raw cotton were being suspended indefinitely in order to protect supplies for domestic requirements. The 1950-51 crop now being harvested is estimated at about 500,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight) considerably below the 643,000 bales produced in 1949-50. Mill consumption in Argentina amounted to about 400,000 bales last year and may reach 425,000 in the current season.

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(Continued on Page 603)

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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WORLD PEANUT PRODUCTION BELOW POSTWAR AVERAGE

World peanut production in 1950, estimated at 10.3 million short tons of nuts in the shell, is down about 2 percent from the postwar average and 600,000 tons below the 1949 output, according to the latest information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Forecasts early in the season had indicated the possibility of a record world peanut crop in 1950. As the season advanced, however, it became evident that the declining prospects in India and Africa precluded this possibility. The loss in India was particularly severe. In addition, significant declines were reported in French West Africa, Nigeria, Indonesia, Brazil, and a number of minor producing countries. Some of the loss, however, was counteracted by an estimated increase in China and reported gains in the United States and a few minor producing countries.

The United States harvested 1,019,200 tons of peanuts from 2,315,000 acres in 1950. Final outturn of the crop - 80,000 tons larger than the 1949 harvest - was greater than was expected earlier in the season but 13 percent below the record crop of 1948. Weather conditions were very favorable during the harvesting season in most areas and the crop was saved in excellent condition and with a minimum loss.

Production in Cuba and the Dominican Republic decreased around 4,000 tons each from the previous year while Mexican output increased by about 3,000 tons.

Despite increased plantings, reaching 10 million acres, in India the harvest dropped to 3,200,000 tons or a loss from 1949 of more than 600,000 tons. High peanut prices provided the chief incentive to "unsystematic" sowings which resulted in larger planted and harvested area but a smaller per acre yield. Inadequate and insufficient monsoon rainfall during the period of plant growth also contributed to the decrease in the yield.

China's peanut production is believed to have been somewhat larger than the 3,224,000 tons harvested in 1949. Acreage also is believed to have been larger. General crop conditions were reported to have been very good in the important peanut producing provinces despite damage from floods, drought, and insects in some areas.

Acreage decrease in Indonesia from 759,000 in 1949 to an estimated 620,000 acres in 1950 undoubtedly resulted in a sizeable drop in production last year. Increases were reported in Japan where almost 17,000 tons were harvested against 10,000 in 1949 and in Taiwan where the crop was 70,000 tons against 61,000 in 1949. In Thailand, however, the outturn amounted to 10,500 tons compared with almost 14,000 the year before.

PEANUTS 1/: Acreage and production in specified areas, and the world, average 1935-39, annual 1946-50

Continent and country	Acreage 2/						Production					
	Average 1935-39	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950 3/	Average 1935-39	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950 3/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
NORTH AMERICA												
Mexico	33	73	83	76	89	-	12.2	36.7	36.8	38.6	42.1	45.0
United States	1,659	3,142	3,380	3,311	2,332	2,315	614.7	1,019.2	1,091.4	1,169.2	937.9	1,019.2
Cuba	-	75	86	67	43	-	4/ 8.4	29.0	23.5	11.2	8.8	5.2
Dominican Republic	-	29	44	42	62	52	4/ 3.8	8.9	9.0	10.2	23.5	19.0
Total 5/	1,800	3,340	3,610	3,520	2,540	2,490	640.0	1,099.0	1,165.5	1,234.5	1,017.0	1,093.0
EUROPE												
Bulgaria	5	4	4	-	-	-	2.2	1.3	1.3	-	-	-
Italy 4/	2	7	11	10	9	9	4/ 1.6	4.4	7.9	7.2	6.9	8.1
Spain 6/	24	16	17	16	-	-	6/ 23.3	12.1	11.1	12.7	-	-
Total (excl. U.S.S.R.) 5/	35	30	35	35	35	40	28.0	18.0	22.0	23.0	23.0	25.0
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 4/	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ASIA												
Turkey 6/	3	4	-	6	7	7	4/ 1.9	1.9	-	3.9	4.4	5.5
Burma	784	531	702	680	656	648	192.2	112.0	171.4	165.8	-	-
China 4/	3,639	3,944	3,913	3,381	3,958	-	4/ 2,913.4	3,039.4	2,916.8	3,160.4	3,224.3	-
Manchuria	-	-	-	-	-	-	4/ 7/ 121.6	-	-	-	-	-
French India 4/	7	-	-	-	-	-	4/ 5.6	-	-	-	-	-
French Indochina 4/	42	-	-	20	-	-	4/ 16.0	-	-	-	-	-
India	7,535	10,267	10,079	9,165	9,700	10,000	3,295.7	4,018.6	3,820.3	3,249.1	3,317.0	3,200.0
Japan 4/	19	-	13	18	20	31	14.6	19.8	5.3	10.1	9.9	16.7
Taiwan 4/	77	126	161	181	-	-	38.5	41.2	51.3	58.8	61.0	66.9
Kwantung Leased Territory 4/	101	-	-	-	-	-	4/ 91.1	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia 8/	572	326	464	-	759	620	289.1	116.6	215.5	319.0	367.0	-
Philippine Republic	18	19	27	34	-	-	4.7	3.4	5.6	8.2	-	-
Thailand	-	22	29	15	15	16	-	8.5	9.7	14.0	13.8	10.5
Total (excl. U.S.S.R.) 5/	13,200	15,600	15,700	14,770	15,630	15,860	7,021.0	7,533.0	7,370.0	7,158.0	7,806.0	7,358.0

SOUTH AMERICA												
Argentina 4/	207	381	282	264	180	193	87.3	257.9	186.8	173.6	89.3	80.9
Brazil	-	85	128	351	336	339 6/	14.8	34.9	59.0	153.2	153.8	110.2
Paraguay 4/	29	-	-	-	8	30 4/	19.4	5.0	1.7	1.1	2.3	-
Uruguay	5	15	15	30	38	18	1.2	4.8	4.8	10.6	11.7	4.5
Total 5/	400	520	450	670	580	600	129.0	310.0	260.0	345.0	264.0	210.0
AFRICA												
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	43	-	-	-	-	-	8.1	6.7	8.6	9.0	15.0	-
Belgian Congo 6/	245	477	490	570	580	- 6/	65.1	-	-	-	160.0	-
Tanganyika 4/	277	-	-	-	-	- 7/	23.4	24.0	36.0	28.0	-	-
Uganda 4/	156	336	331	347	318	350 9/	2.2	169.7	166.3	174.7	-	-
Gambia	-	-	210	210	210	210 7/	58.1	63.2	78.4	69.4	80.0	-
Egypt	23	25	26	24	27	-	17.2	16.9	20.6	19.9	19.8	15.4
French Equatorial Africa and Cameroun 4/	388	-	-	-	-	- 6/	58.8	-	-	-	-	-
French West Africa 4/	2,955	-	-	-	-	- 4/	875.9	560.0	780.0	674.0	600.0	500.0
Madagascar	14	30	25	-	31	40	6.6	8.8	8.0	9.5	9.0	13.3
Mozambique	-	-	-	-	-	- 7/	42.9	36.9	26.9	28.9	15.0	20.0
Nigeria and Cameroons	-	2,500	2,500	2,675	-	- 7/	354.7	616.0	560.0	616.0	500.0	400.0
Angola	18	21	21	-	-	-	6.2	1.1	1.7	6.1	8.3	-
Portuguese Guinea 7/	-	-	-	-	-	-	28.0	28.8	42.8	43.2	45.0	-
Southern Rhodesia	6	13	8	8	7	7	1.6	4.4	2.5	2.4	1.1	2.1
Union of South Africa 10/	56	90	139	329	452	-	12.0	13.7	31.2	79.4	68.9	57.0
Total 5/	6,120	6,590	7,140	7,570	7,680	7,650	1,692.0	1,786.0	2,002.0	2,005.0	1,788.0	1,590.0
OCEANIA												
Australia 4/	14	25	39	35	24	24 4/	6.1	14.9	25.5	17.8	11.2	12.2
Total 5/	15	30	45	40	30	30	6.5	15.5	27.0	18.5	12.0	13.0
World total	21,600	26,150	27,030	26,660	26,550	26,720	9,550.0	10,780.0	10,865.0	10,800.0	10,930.0	10,306.0

1/ Peanuts in the shell. Southern Hemisphere peanut crops, which are harvested from April to June, are combined with those of the Northern Hemisphere harvested from September through December of the same year. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Average of less than 5 years. 5/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available and for minor producing countries. 6/ One year only. 7/ Export figures. 8/ Prior to 1948 figures represent Java and Madura only. 9/ Exports from Kenya and Uganda. 10/ Production on European farms only.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

Argentina's peanut crops the past 2 years have dropped to less than half the average of the previous postwar years--approximating more nearly the prewar output. The 1950 harvest yielded only 80,900 tons compared with 89,300 in 1949 and 258,000 in 1946. Drought damage has caused partial crop failures in Argentina in recent years.

Brazil reported a peanut crop of 110,000 tons, less by some 44,000 tons than 1949. For the first time in the postwar period production decreased from the previous year. Brazil produced only about 15,000 tons of peanuts in 1939. In Uruguay a decrease from the record outturn of 11,700 tons in 1949 to 4,500 in 1950 was reported.

French West Africa's peanut harvest, instead of approximating the 1949 outturn as expected earlier, is estimated at 500,000 tons or 100,000 tons less than a year earlier. The reasons for the substantially diminished tonnage are believed to have been (1) the abnormally heavy rains during August and September and (2) reduced movement of African migrant farmers from the Sudan to the producing areas of Senegal. The knowledge that peanut prices for the 1950-51 harvest would not be supported by the Government is believed to have been a contributing factor in keeping at home some 20,000 farmers who normally travel to Senegal for the peanut-growing season.

Nigeria's 1950 peanut harvest is estimated at around 400,000 tons or 100,000 tons less than the 1949 estimated production. Previous estimates which had indicated an almost normal crop now appear to be unfounded. Purchases by the Groundnut Marketing Board near the end of the purchasing season were reported at approximately 155,000 tons of shelled nuts (around 232,000 unshelled basis) compared with over 200,000 tons (about 300,000 unshelled) from the 1949 crop. The major cause of the reduced output is believed to have been the extreme dry weather during and immediately following the planting period. In addition large quantities of peanuts are believed to have been exported across the northern border into French Niger where the buying price was about £10 ($28) per ton higher than that of the Nigerian Groundnut Marketing Board.

In the Union of South Africa peanut production decreased from 69,000 tons in 1949 to 57,000 last year. The 12,000-ton harvest in Australia was slightly higher than in the previous year.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports of world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

MILK PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION IN PRINCIPAL PRODUCING COUNTRIES IN 1950 1/

Milk production in practically every major producing country except Australia was greater in 1950 than in 1949. Cow numbers increased in nearly all countries except Canada, Norway and Sweden. Feed supplies, both grain and roughage, were adequate and milk prices were generally favorable. Much of the increased milk supplies of 1950 was utilized as fresh and canned milk whereas in 1949 most of the increased production went into butter and cheese.

Fluid milk consumption increased in nearly all major producing countries except Belgium, the Netherlands, and Switzerland. Butter production increased in nearly all countries except Canada and the United States. Cheese production decreased in Canada and the United States, was about the same in Denmark, the Netherlands, and Australia, and increased in the other countries. Canned milk production increased in all major producing countries with major increases occurring in the Netherlands, Denmark and the United Kingdom.

Trade in dairy products, especially canned milk, increased considerably. Exports of Dutch dairy produce in 1950 showed increases over 1949 for butter, cheese and condensed milk and a reduction in shipments of milk powder. Exports of butter from Ireland were much heavier in 1950 than in 1949, but at the end of the year stocks declined and imports were necessary. Denmark increased its butter exports in 1950 over 1949. Australian butter exports were much lower in 1950 than in 1949, but New Zealand continued as a large exporter of butter and cheese. Exports of dairy products from the United States decreased very sharply, especially for cheese and condensed milk. The United Kingdom and Western Germany continued to be the largest importers of dairy produce in 1950 as in 1949.

It is expected that milk cow numbers and milk production in the major producing countries in 1951 will be about the same as in 1950. The severe winter of 1950-51 depleted stocks of grain and roughage and increased feed prices. Unless weather conditions are above average, grain supplies may decline further in 1951-52. While it is expected that milk prices will rise in 1951, this is not expected to offset the higher feed prices. Consequently, milk production for the current year probably will remain at about the 1950 level.

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1/A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agricultural Circular available from the office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

(Table on Following Pages)

MILK: Production and utilization in specified countries, 1950 (preliminary) and 1949

Country	Production			Utilization 1/					
	Milk cows 2/	Production per cow	Milk production	Fluid milk 3/	Butter	Cheese	Canned milk	Other uses 4/	Feed
	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1950									
Canada	3,609	4,554	16,437	5,852	7,228	1,148	597	559	1,053
United States	22,779	5,292 5/	123,381	58,450	33,345	11,680	6,940	9,584	3,382
Austria	1,170	3,674	4,299	2,055	1,267	287	-	2	688
Belgium	950	7,309	6,944	1,951	3,968	132	20	8	865
Denmark	1,577	7,566	11,931	1,592	8,578	913	291	48	509
France	8,400	4,057	34,079	8,770	11,905	5,680	- 6/	454 7/	7,270
Netherlands	1,521	8,385	12,754	3,433	5,125	2,468	834	228	666
Norway	766	4,678	3,582	1,656	1,080	551	- 6/	75	220
Sweden	1,664	6,482	10,798	3,763	5,346	1,012	- 6/	126	551
Switzerland 8/	858	6,349	5,534	2,359	794	1,422	- 6/	99	860
United Kingdom	3,765	6,136	23,103	17,582	1,380	1,298	762	526	1,555
Australia	2,354	5,508 9/	12,966	2,625	8,449	1,034	317	541	-
New Zealand 10/	1,850	5,623	10,403	937	6,767	2,112	- 6/	309	273
1949									
Canada	3,620	4,653	16,843	5,744	7,794	1,323	561	580	841
United States	22,745	5,243 11/	122,071	57,385	33,890	11,958	6,726	8,901	3,211
Austria	1,104	3,695	4,079	1,860	1,375	192	-	2	650
Belgium	900	7,573	6,816	2,109	3,655	132	7	12	901
Denmark	1,535	7,029	10,789	1,568	7,557	915	196	57	496
France	8,150	3,763	30,671	8,414	10,629	4,039	- 6/	319 7/	7,270
Netherlands	1,484	7,823	11,610	3,697	4,625	2,425	57	220	586
Norway	769	4,443	3,417	1,645	981	441	- 6/	75	275
Sweden	1,677	6,107	10,245	3,715	4,894	930	- 6/	232	474
Switzerland 8/	839	6,261	5,382	2,417	712	1,323	- 6/	92	838
United Kingdom	3,690	5,830	21,506	17,129	1,081	824	494	464	1,514
Australia	2,340	5,542 9/	12,968	2,581	8,446	1,012	295	634	-
New Zealand 10/	1,747	5,801	10,135	855	6,695	2,008	- 6/	299	278

1/ Includes farm uses. 2/ Includes, for the United States and Canada, cows kept mainly for milk, and for all other countries, cows producing over and above the requirements of the calf. 3/ Includes milk used for cream. 4/ Includes milk used for ice-cream, dried whole milk, minor products, waste and balance. 5/ Total production is shown. Production on farms, - 120,555 million pounds. 6/ Includes canned milk. 7/ Includes both hand-fed milk and milk sucked by calves. 8/ Production and utilization include goats' milk. 9/ Excludes milk fed to calves. 10/ Year ending June 30. 11/ Total production is shown. Production on farms, - 119,245 million pounds.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, U.S. Foreign Service reports, and other information.

MILK: Production and utilization in specified countries, 1934-38

Country	Production			Utilization 1/					
	Milk cows 2/	Production per cow	Milk production	Fluid milk 3/	Butter	Cheese	Canned milk	Other uses 4/	Feed
	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Canada	3,816	4,138	15,789	4,645	8,197	1,411	273	472	791
United States	23,933	4,291 5/	105,416	43,559	43,729	6,449	4,607	4,333	2,739
Austria 6/	1,210	4,630	5,602	3,068	1,212	661	-	-	561
Belgium	967	7,022	6,790	1,433	4,321	163	15	42	816
Denmark	1,658	7,047 7/	11,684	1,433	9,314	331	- 8/	55	551
Finland	1,309	4,268	5,587	2,556	2,735	205	-	-	91
France	8,400	3,929	33,000	8,000	12,325	5,000	- 8/	175 9/	7,500
Germany	10,076	5,270 7/	53,100	16,100	28,100	2,400	-	500	6,000
Italy	3,466	3,968 10/	13,750	3,700	2,700	3,600	24	626	3,100
Netherlands	1,460	7,658	11,180	2,321	5,536	2,291	- 8/	520	512
Norway	807	3,660 7/	2,954	1,124	1,111	489	- 8/	53	177
Sweden	1,922	5,327 7/	10,238	3,283	5,170	782	- 8/	44	959
Switzerland 11/	902	6,297 7/	6,041	2,125	1,497	1,303	- 8/	49	1,067
United Kingdom	3,300	5,583	18,424	11,100	2,800	1,008	647	686	2,183
Australia 12/	2,545	4,629 13/	11,780	1,612	9,466	444 14/	258	-	-
New Zealand 12/	1,787	5,694	10,176	669	7,066	1,967	- 8/	247	227

1/ Includes farm uses. 2/ Includes, for the United States and Canada, cows kept mainly for milk, and for all other countries, cows producing over and above the requirements of the calf. 3/ Includes milk used for cream. 4/ Includes milk used for ice cream, dried whole milk, minor products, waste and balance. 5/ Total production is shown. Milk production on farms, - 102,590 million pounds. 6/ For the year 1934. 7/ For the years 1933-1937. 8/ Includes canned milk. 9/ Includes both hand-fed milk and milk sucked by calves. 10/ For the year 1938. 11/ Production and utilization include goats' milk. 12/ For the years ending June 30. 13/ Excludes milk fed to calves. 14/ Includes dried whole milk.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, U.S. Foreign Service reports, and other information.- May 21, 1951.

WORLD PRODUCTION OF THE PRINCIPAL HARD FIBERS NEAR PREWAR 1/

Total production of abaca, henequen, and sisal in 1950 is estimated at 1,178.4 million pounds compared with a prewar average of 1,179.7 million and a wartime average of 887.9 million pounds. Abaca production has more than doubled since the war but is still only about six-tenths of prewar. Henequen production has followed a different pattern with 1950 output 12 percent below the average of the war years but approximately 4 percent greater than the prewar average. Sisal output in 1950 was 41 percent greater than in the war years and 35 percent greater than in prewar years.

The Philippines continue to be the most important source of abaca. War destruction greatly reduced production there, and postwar uncertainties delayed recovery of the plantations. Mosaic disease has also hampered output of fiber. The 1950 crop, however, shows an increase of very nearly 50 percent over the total for the preceding year, and another substantial increase is expected in 1951 if conditions remain favorable.

Plantings of abaca in Indonesia have been increasing, but production of hard fibers is reported without separation of the classes, and no basis is available for estimating what percentage of the total abaca, cantala, and sisal may be considered for each. It is probable, however, that abaca is now a greater percentage of the whole than was estimated for prewar production. Although some increase has taken place in the past several years, Indonesia is in about sixth place in sisal production compared with second place before World War II.

Central American abaca production reached a peak of 40.3 million pounds in 1948, but a required period of recovery after heavy harvesting and a disease commonly known as "tip-over" combined to reduce output during the past 2 years. Heavy rainfall in Costa Rica during the latter part of 1950 also caused reduced yields. Increased acreages are planned, but fiber from these areas cannot reach the market for several years.

North Borneo is an important source of fiber for the United Kingdom. Abaca production has also been attempted at least on an experimental basis in recent years in Ecuador, Martinique (French West Indies), British Honduras, Dominican Republic, Burma, and British Malaya.

Henequen production in Mexico accounts for approximately 84 percent of the 1950 world total of that fiber, and Cuban production accounts for 13 percent. Mexican output has decreased to only about 80 percent of the 1948 total of 270.8 million pounds. The principal causes of this decrease are reported to be insufficient rainfall together with the results of overcutting and deficient planting in previous years.

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

FIBERS: World production of the principal hard fibers, representative prewar average to 1950

Commodity and country	Prewar average (5-year) 1934-38	Calendar years		War years average (5-year) 1941-45	Calendar years				
		1939	1940		1946	1947	1948	1949 1/	1950 1/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Abaca									
Philippines, Republic of 2/	415.0	317.8	379.9	3/ 100.8	108.9	221.6	163.3	146.0	213.0
Indonesia 4/	8.0	10.0	9.0	3.0	0.1	5/	5.0	6/	6/
British North Borneo	3/ 4.0	4.7	3/ 3.9	3/ 0.6	7/	7/	0.1	1.7	3.5
Central America	-	-	0.2	7.2	12.2	36.1	40.3	30.2	22.3
Other countries	-	-	-	-	3/ 0.2	3/ 0.8	3/ 0.7	3/ 0.9	3/ 0.7
Total abaca	427.0	332.5	393.0	111.6	121.4	258.5	209.4	6/ 178.8	6/ 239.5
Henequen									
Mexico	212.1	188.9	212.2	256.7	238.3	258.2	270.8	229.4	215.7
Cuba	3/ 28.2	32.9	37.9	27.5	30.5	28.7	28.3	35.3	34.6
El Salvador	6.4	7.2	7.8	8.3	6.9	5.1	6.3	7.4	6.8
Other countries	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.5
Total henequen	246.7	229.0	257.9	292.5	275.9	292.2	306.0	272.7	257.6
Sisal									
British East Africa	261.0	301.1	290.6	291.6	299.8	299.8	350.9	359.0	364.0
Indonesia 8/	167.0	216.0	196.0	3/ 90.0	3/ 15.0	3/ 5/	11.8	6/ 4.3	6/ 12.1
Mozambique 9/	32.3	26.3	23.8	35.3	42.7	35.8	38.7	39.9	40.6
Haiti	10/ 13.3	10/ 16.5	10/ 17.4	10/ 22.5	11/ 40.0	11/ 48.7	11/ 67.0	11/ 67.9	11/ 76.0
Angola (Portuguese West Africa)	12/ 11.3	12/ 12.7	15.0	21.3	30.9	12/ 23.2	34.9	12/ 42.6	47.3
Venezuela	-	-	-	3/ 2.1	5.5	6.6	6.6	4.4	6.6
French West Africa	12/ 9.8	12/ 6.8	3/ 4.0	3/ 5.6	12/ 3.0	4.6	4.4	4.9	5.5
Madagascar	3/ 5.3	6.2	5.5	5.0	0	2.4	5.5	9.3	8.8
Belgian Congo 13/	0.8	0.3	7/	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.6
Brazil	5/	5/	7/	3/ 5.7	20.7	21.2	57.0	70.5	110.2
Formosa (Taiwan)	5/	7/	7/	3/ 1.9	0.1	2.4	4.3	7/	7/
Other British Africa	3/ 3.0	3/ 1.3	3/ 0.7	3/ 0.7	3/ 0.8	3/ 1.1	3/ 1.8	3/ 3.2	3/ 3.0
Other Africa	3/ 0.2	3/ 0.1	3/ 0.2	3/ 0.2	3/ 0.7	0.7	1.2	2.1	3/ 1.7
Other Western Hemisphere	3/ 1.5	0.7	3/ 1.4	3/ 1.2	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.6	3/ 1.0
Other countries	3/ 0.5	3/ 5/	3/ 0.2	0.3	3/ 0.1	3/ 0.7	3/ 1.9	3/ 7.6	3/ 6.3
Total sisal	506.0	588.0	554.8	483.8	460.2	448.1	587.3	6/ 619.1	6/ 681.3
Total abaca, henequen, and sisal	1,179.7	1,149.5	1,205.7	887.9	857.5	998.8	1,102.7	1,070.6	1,178.4

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Years 1934-1940 converted on basis of 278.88 pounds to the bale, but years 1941-1950 converted on basis of 278.3 pounds to the bale. Data for the years 1939-1940 and 1946-1950 include only fiber inspected by the Philippine Fiber Inspection Service and represent only about 90 to 95 percent of total Philippine production. 3/ Estimatee based on incomplete data. 4/ Estimated at about 4 percent of total hard fibers produced in Indonesia for years 1934-1940, and at less than 4 percent of total hard fibers exported plus an estimate of domestic consumption for the year 1941. Years 1942, 1943, and 1945 are estimated from partial data on production. 5/ Less than 50,000 pounds. 6/ Indonesian abaca and cantala, if any, included with sisal. Abaca probably is greater in percentage of total Indonesian fiber production than before the war, but no information regarding a basis for separation is available. 7/ Not available. 8/ Estimated at less than 95 percent of total exports of hard fibers in 1934 and 1941, and at approximately 90 percent of total production of hard fibers in the years 1935-1940. 9/ Exports, excluding tow, for crop year ending June 30 of the year indicated for 1934-1945. Production, including tow, for calendar years 1946-1950. 10/ Exports for year ending September 30 of the year indicated for 1934-1945 and excluding local consumption which probably amounted to less than one million pounds annually prior to 1946. 11/ Total production for calender year, including peasant-cleaned fiber which increased in quantity to about 6.5 to 10.0 million pounds per year in 1946-1949 but decreased rapidly after that date as peasant-produced sisal was decorticated in increasing quantities with plantation-grown sisal. 12/ Exports, which are approximately equal to production, or production estimate based on trade data. 13/ Includes Ruanda-Urundi.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Compiled from official statistics of foreign governments, reports of Foreign Service officers, and estimates based on available information.

Cuban production of henequen is now on a relatively high level. Increased wartime plantings generally reached the age for cutting in 1949, and indications are good for increased production in 1951. The average yield per acre is high and has remained at about 1,200 pounds per acre during the past 2 years.

Henequen production in El Salvador is more than sufficient for the manufacture of bags to move the coffee crop and for some domestic use in cordage and twine. Surpluses are exported. This fiber is not a true henequen but has very much the same characteristics and is sold in foreign markets as a class of henequen.

Sisal is produced in many countries, but the continent of Africa accounts for nearly 70 percent of the total. British East Africa is the most important producing country with 364 million pounds in 1950. This was 25 percent more than the wartime average and 39 percent greater than the 1934-38 prewar average production. The industry responded to wartime needs and the continued postwar shortage of hard fibers, and has increased considerably during the past 10 years.

Indonesia ranked second in sisal production before the war, and its production was relatively high during 1941. The industry suffered great damage during the war, however, and recovery has been very slow. The 1950 output of abaca and sisal in that country was approximately 3 times that of the preceding year but only 7 percent of the average for the 2 fibers in 1934-38.

Brazilian production, which was negligible before the war, has increased to 110.2 million pounds in 1950, giving the country second place. Prospects are good for the 1951 crop, and present plantings should yield a much greater production by 1954 or 1955 if demand continues strong.

Haiti occupies third place in sisal production with a 1950 output of 76 million pounds, compared with a wartime average of 22.5 million and a prewar average of 13.3 million pounds. Very little of the present crop is peasant-cleaned. Such fiber is now machine-cleaned at the plantations. Because of smaller plantings for several earlier years, output is not expected to continue at the present high level during the next several years.

Angola (Portuguese West Africa) also has made spectacular gains in sisal. Production has increased to more than 4 times the prewar average and is expected to reach 50 to 55 million pounds in 1951. The favorable world market has encouraged producers. The acreage is believed to have increased from 111,000 acres in 1949 to at least 135,000 acres at the present time.

Sisal production in Mozambique, which was only 23.8 million pounds in 1940, has increased to 40.6 million in 1950 but is now less than production in Portuguese West Africa. Belgium, France, and the United States received more than half of the sisal exported from Mozambique in 1950.

Sisal is grown far from ports in French West Africa and is largely used in domestic consumption. Only about 17 percent of the total crop was exported in 1950. Acreage is increasing, however, and production is expected to increase as much as one-third by about 1958, assuming favorable marketing and growing conditions.

Venezuela is a comparatively new producer of sisal with the first commercial crops being harvested when wartime shortages emphasized their importance. Production during 1947-50 ranged between 6 and 7 million pounds, except in 1949 when it fell to 4.4 million. About 20,000 acres are in production.

Production of sisal in the Belgian Congo in the past 2 years has exceeded output during the preceding decade but is somewhat below the average for 1934-38. The outlook is not good for continued production because of the unpopularity of the crop with native labor.

Production in Formosa (Taiwan) was reported to be increasing through 1946-48, but reliable information is lacking on the harvest of the past two years.---By Cecille M. Protzman, based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

1950-51 BEAN PRODUCTION DROPS 5 PERCENT IN 51 COUNTRIES [1]

Production of dry edible beans in 51 countries in 1950-51 is estimated at 108 million bags on the basis of revised figures from many of the more important producing areas. This is 5 percent less than the estimated 1949-50 production of 113 million bags and a little more than the estimated average production in the wartime period 1940-44 and prewar 1935-39. There was a sharp drop in production in 1950 in North America and a lesser but significant drop in Europe, confined almost entirely to eastern and southern Europe. The 1950 production increased in northwestern Europe, generally, above 1949. There were also moderate increases in 1950 in South America, Asia and Africa.

The total bean area in the 51 countries is estimated at 20.4 million acres in 1950-51 or 1 percent below the 20.6 million acres estimated for 1949-50. Acreage declined from last season in both North America and Africa, but there was a slight increase indicated in Europe and Asia and no change from last season in South America. Average yields per acre for the 51 countries were estimated in 1950-51

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[1] A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

BEANS, dry edible: Acreage, yield per acre and production in specified countries, average 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1949-50

Continent and country	Acreage				Yield per acre				Production			
	Average		1949	1950 1/	Average		1949	1950 1/	Average		1949	1950 1/
	1935-39	1940-44			1935-39	1940-44			1935-39	1940-44		
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
NORTH AMERICA												
Canada	68	95	93	76	1,132	981	1,140	1,066	770	932	1,060	810
Costa Rica	44	62	35	35	495	373	571	500	218	231	200	175
El Salvador	52	63	100	100	823	802	482	500	428	505	482	500
Guatemala	89	145	200	200	658	746	550	650	586	1,082	1,100	1,300
Honduras	70	76	62	65	397	329	726	769	278	250	450	500
Mexico	1,419	1,726	2,187	2,298	182	199	233	240	2,579	3,440	5,093	5,512
Nicaragua	40	42	55	55	250	240	409	409	100	101	225	225
Panama, Republic of	12	15	25	25	417	360	500	500	50	54	125	125
United States 2/	1,698	2,034	1,834	1,485	856	899	1,083	1,015	14,530	18,287	19,866	15,067
Cuba	125	125	157	148	760	706	680	667	950	883	1,000	947
Dominican Republic	80	80	75	75	568	571	325	533	454	457	244	400
Haiti	80	80	65	65	562	562	577	577	450	450	375	375
Total	3,777	4,543	4,888	4,627	566	587	618	561	21,393	26,672	30,220	25,936
EUROPE												
Austria	24	20	21	19	1,100	1,000	1,181	1,242	264	200	248	236
Belgium	8	7	2	2	2,146	1,796	1,497	3,468	168	125	26	58
Bulgaria	306	530	550	550	667	679	545	400	2,042	3,600	3,000	2,200
Czechoslovakia	54	42	25	25	1,000	1,019	904	904	540	428	226	225
France	424	393	334	368	724	532	279	591	3,069	2,091	933	2,176
Western Germany	5	5	14	7	1,402	1,427	1,071	1,434	73	71	150	99
Eastern Germany	5	9	10	10	1,108	1,121	1,000	1,100	51	100	100	110
Greece	63	60	100	95	586	583	767	682	369	350	767	648
Hungary	147	198	220	220	810	878	727	500	1,190	1,739	1,600	1,100
Italy	1,228	1,247	1,236	1,206	283	239	225	215	3,478	2,979	2,775	2,595
Netherlands	18	31	13	13	1,706	1,484	1,869	2,546	307	460	243	331
Portugal	415	696	875	906	206	130	71	116	856	907	620	1,048
Rumania	858	667	840	840	569	704	595	440	4,878	4,694	5,000	3,700
Spain	581	610	568	568	580	384	260	247	3,368	2,341	1,477	1,404
Sweden	2	1	4	4	1,652	1,302	1,522	1,368	36	18	64	51
Yugoslavia	360	350	425	425	779	857	659	400	2,804	3,000	2,800	1,700
Total	4,498	4,866	5,237	5,258	522	475	382	336	23,493	23,103	20,029	17,681

ASIA												
Iran	75	90	86	86	533	611	616	666	400	550	530	573
Lebanon	3/	3/	7	10	3/	3/	1,487	1,100	3/	3/	110	110
Syria	4/ 1	4/ 5	5	5	4/1,040	4/1,151	1,000	1,320	4/ 8	4/ 59	50	66
Turkey	185	227	217	208	751	843	803	922	1,390	1,914	1,742	1,918
Burma	396	300	300	300	682	333	333	367	2,700	1,000	1,000	1,100
China	6,250	5,000	4,000	4,000	450	480	550	550	28,100	24,000	22,000	22,000
Japan	472	350	195	250	867	774	727	940	4,093	2,708	1,417	2,351
South Korea	100	90	122	100	806	778	574	500	806	700	700	500
Total	7,479	6,062	4,932	4,959	501	510	559	577	37,497	30,931	27,549	28,618
SOUTH AMERICA												
Argentina	56	61	83	89	732	993	895	730	410	606	743	650
Brazil	2,354	2,650	4,425	4,428	771	701	626	637	18,155	18,582	27,708	28,200
Chile	214	213	168	166	815	752	792	723	1,744	1,602	1,330	1,200
Colombia	179	186	210	210	407	473	476	476	729	879	1,000	1,000
Ecuador	9	9	10	12	778	833	1,000	833	70	75	100	100
Paraguay	23	10	8	8	304	700	875	875	70	70	70	70
Peru	58	60	60	60	690	750	792	792	400	450	475	475
Uruguay	23	19	10	10	383	295	380	350	88	56	38	35
Venezuela	30	90	100	90	867	556	820	889	260	500	820	800
Total	2,946	3,298	5,074	5,073	744	692	636	641	21,926	22,820	32,284	32,530
AFRICA												
Algeria	1	1	4	4	526	443	550	550	6	6	22	22
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	4	10	10	10	1,075	865	1,000	1,000	52	83	100	100
French Morocco	2	9	23	20	265	295	526	560	6	25	121	112
Madagascar	143	128	124	103	660	533	373	601	944	682	462	619
Angola	127	132	155	155	448	489	854	774	569	646	1,323	1,200
Union of South Africa	100	120	175	175	400	375	286	400	400	450	500	700
Total	377	400	491	467	524	473	515	590	1,977	1,892	2,528	2,753
World total	19,077	19,169	20,622	20,384	557	550	546	527	106,286	105,418	112,610	107,518

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Excludes garbanzos. 3/ Included with Syria. 4/ Includes Lebanon.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports or the U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information.

at the low level of 527 pounds. This compares with 546 pounds in 1949-50, 550 pounds, the average during the war, and 557 pounds, the average in prewar, 1935-39 period. The 1950-51 yields per acre dropped below the previous season in North America, and eastern and southern Europe, but increased in northwestern Europe and on the other 3 continents.

North America: Production in North America, where the United States and Mexico produced 79 percent of the total crop in 1950, was estimated at 25.9 million bags. This was a decline of 14 percent below the 1949 production of 30.2 million bags but 21 percent above the prewar estimate of 21.4 million bags. The decline was heaviest in the United States where acreage declined by 19 percent and where wet weather did heavy damage to the pea-bean crop in Michigan and New York. Bean acreage in North America dropped 5 percent in 1950 from 1949, but was still 23 percent above prewar. The drop in 1950 reflects largely the decline of acreage in the United States where acreage allotments were in effect. Average yields in 1950 were only 561 pounds per acre compared to 618 in 1949 and 566 average in the period 1935-39.

Europe: Bean production in Europe was spotted in 1950, but on the whole was 12 percent below the 1949 crop of 20 million bags. The 1950 crop of 17.7 million bags was also 25 percent below the prewar average production of 23.5 million bags. The principal reduction occurred in eastern Europe where the droughty weather took a heavy toll. Estimates from many of these countries, are not very reliable, but the effects of drought are well known in this general area. In Yugoslavia, Italy and Greece 1950 production was considerably below 1949. In Yugoslavia, for example production was 39 percent less in 1950 than in 1949, and 39 percent below the prewar average. Normally, Yugoslavia has been a net exporter of beans. Before the war exports averaged almost 600,000 bags annually but during the 1950-51 season Yugoslavia imported beans from the United States. As of March 31 some 770,000 bags of United States beans and 550,000 bags of dry peas have been programmed to relieve the pulse shortage in Yugoslavia.

Substantial increases of production were obtained in 1950 above 1949 in western Europe particularly in Portugal and France. These increases were only in relation to the very low production of 1949, however, as these countries suffered from severe drought in 1949. In France, for example, the 1950 production of 2.2 million bags, while more than double the 933,000 bags in 1949 and 29 percent below the prewar average production of 3.1 million bags.

Yields in the whole of Europe were estimated in 1950 at the very low level of 336 pounds per acre. This compares with 382 pounds in 1949 and 522 pounds average in the prewar period 1935-39. On the other hand, there were exceptionally high yields in Belgium and the Netherlands. But acreage in these countries is of small and therefore of little consequence, in the total European acreage. The 1950 bean acreage for all Europe estimated at 5.3 million acres was almost the same as 1949, but 17 percent above the prewar 1935-39 average of 4.5 million acres.

Asia: In Asia, China produces the bulk of the bean crop which, according to rough indications recently received from observers in or near China, was about the same in 1950 as in 1949. Japan and Turkey are the 2 next largest reporting producers in Asia and both report substantial increases of production in 1950. This is particularly true in Japan, where the 1950 crop of 2.4 million bags compares with 1.4 in 1949, an increase of 66 percent and with 4.1 million bags average before the war, a reduction of 43 percent. Production in Turkey was estimated at 1.9 million bags in 1950 compared to 1.7 in 1949 and 1.4 before the war. Data are less reliable from the other Asiatic countries but are believed to reflect fairly the general volume and trend of production.

Africa: Production in Africa in 1950-51 is estimated at 2.8 million bags, 9 percent higher than the 2.5 million produced last season and 39 percent higher than the prewar average of 2.0 million. The 1950-51 acreage was lower than the previous season by 5 percent and yields per acre were higher by 75 pounds per acre. Yields in Africa averaged 524 pounds per acre prewar compared with 515 pounds in 1949-50 and 590 pounds in 1950-51. There was recently reported to be an exportable supply in Angola purchased by France. Madagascar's exportable supplies mostly have been moved.

South America: Preliminary indications from South America suggest a 1950-51 crop of about 32.5 million bags, roughly the same as last season but 48 percent above the prewar average of 21.9 million bags. This estimate is heavily weighted by Brazil which produces about 87 percent of the South American production and which is reported to have a crop this year somewhat larger than last. Chile and Argentina, on the other hand, report smaller crops than a year ago. These decreases together about offset the increase reported for Brazil. Chilean production was reduced considerably by heavy rains in the southern areas. The full effect of the damage has not yet been reported and exports of beans consequently are not currently permitted. Argentina is expected to have an exportable supply.

Summary

It appears likely, at present, that at the end of the crop year the United States will have sizeable carry-over stocks of beans and that United States exports may pick up somewhat if exports are not freed in Chile. It also appears that Argentina has exportable supplies available. Madagascar has few, if any, beans from the old crop and Angola recently sold about 100,000 bags to France. Italy has been encouraging bean imports because of a poor 1950 crop and high prices.--By Orval E. Goodsell, based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

FATS AND OILS

FRENCH MOROCCO DEPENDS MOSTLY ON IMPORTED VEGETABLE OIL AND OILSEEDS

The French Zone of Morocco is largely dependent on outside sources for edible oilseeds and oils. Locally produced sunflower and safflower seed oil, along with a few other oilseeds of much lesser importance, probably yielded about 2,200 short tons of edible oils from the 1950 harvest, according to E. L. Stanger, American Consulate, Rabat. Against this, the average annual consumption of refined edible oils in recent years has been around 20,000 tons, exclusive of olive oil.

During 1950, about 31,000 tons of oilseeds were imported compared with some 50,000 tons in 1949. On the other hand, over 11,000 tons of vegetable oils were imported in 1950 compared with less than 9,000 tons in 1949. In addition, more than 5,000 tons of olive oil were imported during 1950, mainly from Tunisia, for use in the sardine canning industry. This unusual import also contributed to declining oilseed imports in 1950.

The vegetable oil industry of French Morocco includes 8 oilseed crushing mills with an annual capacity of 150,000 tons. Two of these mills were constructed in 1949. There are 6 oil refineries with a capacity of 45,000 tons and the soap industry has a capacity of more than 20,000 tons. The crushing mills apparently are running at about 40 percent of capacity.

On February 1, 1951, the Protectorate Government decided to suspend provisionally the existing controls on the vegetable oil market. As a result the price of table oil immediately jumped from 222 to 288 francs per liter (32 to 41.5 cents per pound). The price has since dropped to 270 francs (39 cents) however, and further declines are expected.

In the case of domestic oilseed production, all price supports have now been definitely abandoned, and the crushing mills will buy the 1951 crop directly from the producers at prevailing world prices, based on the tested oil content of the seeds offered. Moreover, Government officials have stated privately that they do not intend to push local oilseed production, since it cannot hope to compete on the world markets without price supports.

As for flaxseed, France's apparently waning interest in Moroccan production was manifested by the recent termination of the local operations of the Pool du Lin, French-Government flaxseed purchasing agency.

In spite of the signs of a lack of official interest in local oilseed production and the return to an unsupported market, oilseed production in the French Zone of Morocco will probably increase in 1951.

Farmers are showing renewed interest in oilseed production as a result of high world prices, and this trend has been emphasized in northwestern Morocco by the severe winter floods, which prevented winter grain seedings and left land available for spring sowing of oilseeds, especially sunflower and safflower. A renewed interest in the cultivation of castor beans and peanuts has also been noted.

In any case, any increase in local oilseed production will account for only a small fraction of local requirements, and the Protectorate will still continue to be dependent on outside sources for about 90 percent of its vegetable oilseeds and oils (excluding olive oil).

SWEDEN'S 1950 FATS AND OILS PRODUCTION UP 20 PERCENT

Sweden's production of fats and oils of vegetable and animal origin amounted to nearly 130,000 short tons in 1950, exceeding the previous year's total of 105,700 tons by over 20 percent, according to Georg Frostenson, American Embassy, Stockholm. Edible vegetable oil output, principally from rapeseed, was reported at 81,000 tons. Linseed oil was reported at 15,400 tons; lard, tallow and other animal fats at 20,000 tons; fish oil at 1,650 tons; and distilled tall oil at 11,500 tons.

Domestic vegetable oilseed production is limited to rape, mustard, and flaxseed. Rapeseed plantings on 312,600 acres yielded 116,470 tons of fall rape and 73,650 of spring rape. Oil production from rapeseed was calculated at 79,150 tons. Mustard seed output of 6,680 tons from 16,550 acres yielded 1,800 tons of oil. Sweden's flaxseed production of 44,270 tons (1,581,000 bushels) represented a decrease of almost one-fourth from the record of 1949. Flaxseed was planted to 88,000 acres and yielded 15,400 tons of linseed oil.

Consumption of fats and oils still exceeds production but the difference is small and declining. Consumption of edible fats and oils amounted to 81,500 tons during 1950 and the non-food industrial usuage is estimated at from 55,000 to 65,000 tons. The supply of rapeseed oil is larger than the present demand, a fact which motivates a substantial foreign trade of oils.

Exports of fats and oils during 1950 amounted to 51,150 tons in oil equivalent and consisted of 44,737 tons of rapeseed, 56 tons (2,000 bushels) of flaxseed, 17,050 tons of rapeseed oil, and 4,750 of miscellaneous vegetable fats. Exports of animal fats were principally

10,230 tons of hydrogenized fats, 2,550 tons of fatty acids, and 1,800 tons of lard and tallow. Tall oil exports of 1,875 tons were reported. Western Germany purchased 38,368 tons of rapeseed and 12,830 tons of rapeseed oil.

Imports of 44,825 tons of copra, about half of which was supplied by British Malaya, 14,700 tons of vegetable oils, 11,100 tons of hydrogenized animal fats, and 11,450 tons of whale oil, chiefly from Norway, exceeded exports on an oil equivalent basis by about 20,000 tons.

Stocks of edible fats and oils of animal and vegetable origin held by the oil processing plants, the margarine factories, and the Oil Importers Association rose from 57,500 tons on January 1, 1950, to 70,200 tons a year later. This rise, resulting from increased domestic production and to the import surplus during the year, was considered above normal. No information is available concerning stocks of non-food fats and oils with the exception of distilled tall oil. However, stocks of this group were believed to have declined during the year. Stocks of tall oil, amounting to 345 tons at the beginning of the year, declined to 46 tons by January 1, 1951.

The anticipated output of fats and oils in 1951 is 140,000 tons or an increase of about 10,000 tons from the previous year. Rapeseed acreage was expected to be up by 46,500 acres and area sown to flaxseed has been forecast at 106,250 acres against the 88,000 acres during 1950. The expected production increase appears to be offset by correspondingly larger exports of rapeseed and oil while imports and consumption probably will remain at the 1950 level.

INDONESIAN COPRA EXPORTS, APRIL 1951

Exports of copra from Indonesia during April 1951 totaled 23,853 long tons. Shipments went to the following countries: United Kingdom - 12,012; Netherlands - 9,217; and Sweden - 2,624 tons. The United Kingdom's purchase was its first since 1949, when 40,900 tons were obtained from Indonesia.

Although production was forecast at only 31,500 tons during April, actual output amounted to 51,000 tons with 44,000 tons produced in East Indonesia and 7,000 in West Borneo. Production and exports for May were forecast at 43,300 and 44,300 tons, respectively.

Deliveries to local oil mills were 6,218 tons during April. The current level of these sales is about 15 percent below the 2 previous years.

Buying prices for copra paid by the Copra Foundation decreased on June 1 to 130 gulden per 100 kilograms ($174.70 per long ton) from the earlier price of 145 gulden ($194.90).

PHILIPPINE APRIL COPRA EXPORTS HIGH OF YEAR

Exports of copra and coconut oil from the Philippines during April 1951 amounted to 87,173 long tons in copra equivalent, and exceeded prior 1951 monthly shipments by a wide margin.

Shipments of copra of 76,970 tons were sent to the following countries: United States - 27,512 tons (Atlantic - 4,679, Gulf - 9,976, Pacific - 12,857); Canada - 1,800; Colombia 5,999; Venezuela - 5,600; Belgium - 2,700; Italy - 3,950; Sweden - 3,000; Japan - 639; Israel - 2,500; Guam - 13,070; and other countries unspecified - 10,200 tons.

Coconut oil totaling 6,428 tons was exported as follows: to the United States - 3,843 tons, Venezuela - 300; Netherlands - 861, China - 262, South Africa - 937, and other Europe - 225 tons.

In mid-May the copra export price was reported at from $205 to $210 per short ton, freight prepaid to the Pacific Coast. Local buying prices again decreased to 37.50-38.50 pesos per 100 kilograms (average of $193.05 per long ton) in Manila and 33-41 pesos (average of $187.98) in producing areas.

ANTARCTIC WHALE AND SPERM OIL PRODUCTION TOTALS 401,050 TONS IN 1950-51

Combined production of whale and sperm oil from the 1950-51 Antarctic catch is estimated at 401,050 short tons, or slightly less than the 404,390 tons produced during the previous season, according to Einar Jensen, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Oslo. These data, provisional, were obtained from the International Whaling Commission, Sandefjord.

Total whale oil output decreased from 378,650 tons in 1949-50 to 355,560 tons in 1950-51. Sperm oil production, however, amounted to 45,490 tons and represented an increase of 77 percent from last year.

The season began December 22, 1950, and closed March 9, 1951, when the limit of 16,000 blue-whale units presumably was reached. The season of 77 days was the shortest on record and was completed 29 days before the originally-scheduled closing date of April 7. The 1949-50 season lasted 85 days and the 1948-49 season 102 days.

Nineteen expeditions participated in the Antarctic operations this season. The Panamanian entry was the newcomer to the field, which included 10 Norwegian expeditions, 3 British, 2 Japanese, and one each from South Africa, the Soviet Union, and the Netherlands.

WHALE AND SPERM OIL: Production from catch in Antarctic during 1950-51 pelagic whaling season 1/ 2/

Country and expedition	PRODUCTION Whale oil	Sperm oil	Total	Whale oil	Sperm oil	Total	Blue-whale units	Production per unit
	Barrels			Short tons			Number	Short tons
NORWAY								
Thorshammer	78,000	13,160	91,160	14,560	2,457	17,017	751.0	103.9
Thorshavet	99,790	17,939	117,729	18,628	3,349	21,977	760.0	131.3
Thorshovdi	122,222	10,985	133,207	22,815	2,051	24,866	974.0	125.5
Kosmos III	129,380	22,020	151,400	24,151	4,110	28,261	1,187.0	109.0
Kosmos IV	124,921	27,079	152,000	23,319	5,055	28,374	1,160.0	107.7
Sir James Clark Ross	85,000	12,500	97,500	15,867	2,333	18,200	742.0	114.6
Antarctic	69,265	7,030	76,295	12,930	1,312	14,242	556.0	124.6
Pelagos	84,012	6,500	90,512	15,683	1,213	16,896	827.0	101.6
Norhval	89,200	7,800	97,000	16,651	1,456	18,107	753.0	118.5
Suderoy	50,110	1,025	51,135	9,354	191	9,545	387.0	129.5
Sub-total	931,900	126,038	1,057,938	173,958	23,527	197,485	8,097.0	115.1
UNITED KINGDOM								
Southern Harvester	111,060	18,455	129,515	20,731	3,445	24,176	816.0	136.1
Southern Venturer	125,558	10,747	136,305	23,438	2,006	25,444	943.0	133.1
Balaena	130,600	22,100	152,700	24,379	4,125	28,504	1,163.4	112.3
Sub-total	367,218	51,302	418,520	68,548	9,576	78,124	2,922.4	125.7
JAPAN								
Hashidate Maru	59,412	12,865	72,277	11,090	2,402	13,492	550.1	108.0
Nisshin Maru No. 1	88,000	9,482	97,482	16,427	1,770	18,197	750.5	117.3
Sub-total	147,412	22,347	169,759	27,517	4,172	31,689	1,300.6	113.3
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA								
Abraham Larsen	138,100	23,900	162,000	25,779	4,461	30,241	1,315.0	104.9
THE NETHERLANDS								
William Barendsz	91,369	12,191	103,560	17,056	2,276	19,332	837.7	109.1
PANAMA								
Olympic Challenger	122,000	3,000	125,000	22,774	560	23,334	997.6	122.3
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS								
Slava	106,752	4,901	111,653	19,927	915	20,842	901.0	118.5
Grand total	1,904,751	243,679	2,148,430	355,560	45,487	401,047	16,371.3	116.3

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Output of the three land stations is not included.

The Bureau of International Whaling Statistics, Sandefjord.

Norway's production of both whale and sperm oil totaled 197,485 tons and comprised almost half the total Antarctic output. The United Kingdom's volume, the second largest, was 78,124 tons. Japan's output of 31,689 tons was third, followed closely by South Africa with 30,241 tons, the latter output being the largest quantity of whale and sperm oil produced by any single expedition operating this last season.

Established operators are viewing with alarm the possibility that additional expeditions may enter the 1951-52 Antarctic operations. With the total catch limited to 16,000 units, they reason that any additional competition would necessarily reduce the production of each expedition. They also contend that a greater number of expeditions would tend to shorten the season and thus decrease total oil production. This argument is based on the fact that the oil yield per whale is smaller during the early part of the season and increases as the season progresses.

Under these conditions, the existing companies conclude that the ultimate result would be increased production costs and an inevitable rise in the market price for oil.

GUATEMALA'S PRODUCTION OF FATS AND OILS DECREASES IN 1950

Guatemala's production of fats and oils in 1950 is tentatively estimated at 9,030 short tons compared with 9,696 tons in 1949, according to Douglas M. Crawford, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Guatemala City. The smaller production probably resulted from decreases in the output of animal fats, lard and tallow.

Prospects for future supplies of cottonseed hold the brightest spot in the local fats and oils picture. Since two-thirds of the cotton needed for domestic manufacture has been imported in recent years, the Guatemalan Government is making a concerted effort to increase local output. In 1948, the Production Development Institute began to foster increased plantings. By 1950, cotton acreage reached 4,600 to 4,800 acres and an estimated 2,500 tons of cottonseed were available for crushing. In 1951, supplies for crushings may reach 4,000 tons.

Other oleaginous crops grown in Guatemala of commercial importance are sesame, peanuts, corozo kernels, and the African oil palm. Production in 1950 was 1,200 tons of sesame seed, 350 tons of peanuts, and 900 tons of corozo kernels. The word "corozo" in Guatemala is loosely used to designate at least 3 and possibly 5 different types of kernels gathered from wild oil palms.

African oil palm plantings at present consist of about 900 acres on the Pacific Coast and some 700 acres on the eastern coast. A minimum of 1,500 acres per plantation is considered necessary, however, to warrant the installation of processing equipment. Since no additional plantings were made during 1950, it is unlikely that appreciable quantities of this oil will be produced before 1956.

Lard is the principal cooking fat in Guatemala and output in 1950 was about 3,700 tons, a decrease of 430 tons from last year.

Production of tallow in 1950 may have reached 3,600 tons compared with 3,870 tons in 1949. Tallow and other cattle fats produced in Guatemala are used primarily for making soap.

Butter production probably decreased slightly in 1950. An estimated 290 tons was produced compared to at least 300 tons in 1949.

Guatemala in 1950 continued to import increasing quantities of fats and oils. Arrivals last year of all fat materials totaled 7,780 tons, an increase of 20 percent from 1949. As was true in past years, the bulk of these imports consisted of about 3,160 tons of lard and 3,750 tons of tallow. Most of the remaining imports were in the form of vegetable oils--635 tons--of which 370 tons were inedible. By all measurements the United States continued to be the principal supplier.

Prices of all fats and oils and related products increased in 1950. Since Guatemala imports almost one-half of its total yearly consumption of fats and oils, local price and marketing conditions are strongly affected by foreign price changes, particularly those of the United States.

Oil supplies from the expanding cotton production seem to be the main prospect in the near future. Peanut plantings may continue about the same as in 1950 while the better price outlook in 1951 may increase sesame output.

ITALIAN OILSEED PRODUCTION UNCHANGED IN 1950

Italian production of oilseeds in 1950 is estimated at 50,340 short tons, or about the same as in 1949 despite a 9-percent decrease in plantings, according to the American Embassy, Rome. The greatest reduction in plantings occurred for sunflower seed , soybeans, and castor beans. Cotton acreage, however, increased substantially in 1950 while peanut plantings remained about the same.

Although the climate and soil conditions of Italy are not well suited to growing oilseeds, plantings of edible oilseeds during the immediate postwar period rose from an average of 7,900 acres during 1936-39 to a high of 96,880 acres in 1947. By 1949, however, plantings had dropped to 63,340 acres and were reduced still further in 1950 to 51,270 acres. Peak plantings and production during 1947 were due to exceptionally high prices.

ITALY: Oilseed production, 1950 with comparisons

(Short tons)

Oilseed	Average 1935-39	1948	1949	1950 1/
Rapeseed	2/ 2,180	25,580	12,400	12,460
Peanuts	2/ 1,640	7,170	6,890	8,100
Sunflower seed	2/ 25	8,060	7,480	4,090
Sesame seed	2/ 440	480	535	540
Soybeans	2/ 16	3,200	1,560	875
Castor beans	2/ 3,600	3,220	2,430	875
Flaxseed	5,670	13,190	12,640	12,950
Hempseed	3,470	2,710	3,460	3,160
Cottonseed 3/	9,370	4,440	3,210	7,290
Total	26,411	66,050	50,605	50,340

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Average of less than 5 years. 3/ Commercial production.

American Embassy, Rome

Vegetable oil production (excluding olive oil) in 1950 totaled 48,500 tons compared with approximately 57,300 tons during 1949.

During 1950, oilseed imports were 107,500 tons compared with about 101,400 tons in 1949. Although imports of edible oilseeds were 44 percent less than in 1949, inedible oilseed imports more than doubled those of last year. The greatest decline in edible oilseed imports from 1949 was in soybeans - a drop from almost 31,000 tons to only 1,430 tons. Flaxseed imports in 1950 amounted to 46,450 tons, or 57 percent of the total imports of inedible oilseeds during the year. Imports of vegetable oils declined somewhat in 1950, totaling only 77,140 tons compared with 102,810 tons in 1949.

The United States is still the most important supplier of oilseeds to Italy, accounting for 30 percent of the total in 1949 and 22 percent in 1950. Eritrea is second in importance, accounting for 12 percent in 1949 and 19 percent in 1950. Italian oilseed imports from the United States were divided between flaxseed and peanuts. About half the volume imported from Eritrea was flaxseed. Of the total imports of vegetable oils in 1950, the Belgian Congo, the United States, and British Malaya, jointly accounted for 43 percent.

Prices of vegetable oils during 1950 showed normal season increases until June. In July, after hostilities broke out in Korea, prices on the Leghorn market immediately rose by 16 percent. Prices on the Milan and Turin markets increased by 18 and 31 percent, respectively, over the previous month and held that level through October. In November

1950, when prospects for the olive oil harvest were poor, prices again rose and by December were almost 40 percent higher than in January of 1950.

As of April 1951, the market was saturated with seed oil and no Government stocks were being sold. Imported seeds and raw vegetable oils were being processed and stored for future use.

Due to the relatively poor olive harvest and critical world conditions, the Italian Government in 1950 decided to increase its oilseed and vegetable oil imports.

Under this program, Government imports of oilseeds and their residues during the first 2 months of 1951 totaled 57,360 tons. Vegetable fat and oil imports during the same period amounted to 22,050 tons, or an increase of almost 70 percent from the 13,075 tons imported during January and February of 1950.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

ARGENTINE MEAT SITUATION UNDER NEW PROTOCOL TO ANGLO-ARGENTINE TRADE AGREEMENT

In the protocol of April 23, 1951, supplementing the existing Anglo-Argentine Agreement of June 27, 1949, Argentina undertook to sell to the United Kingdom during the next 12 months not less than 200,000 long tons (448 million pounds) carcass weight of meat and offals, and not less than 30,000 long tons (67 million pounds), product weight, of canned corned meat, according to C.A. Boonstra, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Buenos Aires.

The prices f.o.b. of principal items were established as follows: chilled beef sides, ₤ 146 per long ton (18.25 U.S. cents per pound 1/); chilled quality frozen sides, ₤ 126 (15.75 U.S. cents per pound); frozen beef sides "B", ₤ 118 (14.75 U.S. cents per pound); lamb, ₤ 130 (16.25 U.S. cents per pound); canned corned beef (6 pound tins), ₤ 8.8s 1d per case (32.7 U.S. cents per pound). The meat commitment at specific prices included only beef, lamb, and mutton.

Under the original 1949 agreement, the minimum quantity of carcass meat was 300,000 tons (672 million pounds) annually, and the first-year price was an average of ₤ 97.536 (12.2 U.S. cents per pound) for frozen meat only. The canned meat commitment previously was 20,000 tons (45 million pounds) per year.

1/ Converted at the rate of U.S. $2.80 to one pound sterling.

Although cattle marketing is below recent years because of 1949-50 drought losses and current re-stocking programs, Argentina if it desires will be able to fill the 200,000 ton (448 million pounds) minimum. Stocks of frozen meat available immediately approach 50,000 tons, (112 million pounds), of which at least 40,000 tons (90 million pounds) are beef and beef offal. Possibly another 50,000 tons annually, diverted to canning during the prolonged export stalemate, will be returned to the normal frozen outlet. The balance of 100,000 tons (224 million pounds) will be available even if marketings continue at a reduced rate compared with 1950. Shipping orders have been issued already for 51,000 tons (114 million pounds) between April 25 and June 30, 1951.

Shipments much above the minimum of 200,000 tons (448 million pounds) are unlikely. Possibly 250,000 tons (560 million pounds) is the absolute maximum. Growers under the impetus of relatively high prices are inclined to hold cattle, the United States canned meat market is strong, and Argentina prefers to diversify markets if additional meat becomes available. Chilled beef probably will be under 20 percent of the 200,000 tons to be shipped. The stocks on hand are frozen, and a considerable portion of the coming slaughter will be frozen "B" quality. In handling chilled quality cattle, the packers will experience difficulty in scheduling properly the incoming shipments because of current marketing and railroad practices, and necessarily will have to freeze a large portion of the chilled quality meat.

The supply of canner-type cattle is readily sufficient to enable fulfillment of the 30,000 ton (67 million pounds) minimum (product weight) for canned corned meat. There will have to be, however, a sharp reduction in shipments of canned corned beef to the United States from the rate of 1950 and early 1951. Not only will more canned meat be going to the United Kingdom, but total canned meat production will fall when diversion of freezer and chilled quality cattle to cans is stopped.

Compared with the £ 97.536 per ton (12.2 U.S. cents per pound 1/) paid by the British in the 1949 contract, the average for the new schedule may be considered a maximum of £ 128, (16.00 U.S. cents per pound) an increase of 30 percent. Most of the shipments will be at £ 126 and £ 118, since chilled beef at £ 145 and lamb at £ 130 will be relatively small quantities. Considering only the price schedule for frozen meat, comparable more directly to the 1949 contract, the new average would fall near £ 123 (15.38 U.S. cents per pound), 25 percent above the price last year.

The f.o.b. price stipulated by the Argentine Trade Promotion Institute in recent weeks on sales of frozen beef to the United States Army and other destinations has been 40 U.S. cents per kilo (18.0 cents per pound). The new British prices are equivalent to 40.9 U.S. cents per kilo (18.6 cents per pound) for chilled beef and 35.3 U.S. cents (16.0 cents per pound) for chilled quality frozen beef. The applicable rates of exchange are 500 pesos to 100 U.S. dollars, and 14 pesos to one pound sterling.

1/ Converted at the rate of U.S. $2.80 to one pound sterling.

U.K. - URUGUAYAN MEAT NEGOTIATORS REACH AGREEMENT

An agreement between representatives of the United Kingdom and Uruguay was reached in early May providing for exportation of frozen and canned meat to Britain at the same prices as established for Argentine meat. Shipments are to begin immediately. A favorable settlement was reported for £ 1,500,000 sterling (U.S. $4,200,000) claimed by Uruguay as being owed for meat exports to the United Kingdom after devaluation of the pound in September 1949.

An agreement on chilled beef is pending the arrival of a technical mission from the United Kingdom to determine the price differential applicable to Uruguayan chilled quality meat which differs somewhat from the Argentine.

TINPLATE USE PERMITTED IN NETHERLANDS FOR CONDENSED MILK FOR EXPORT 1/

A critical supply position has necessitated severe restrictions on the use of tinplate by manufacturers in the Netherlands.

No tinplate will be available for the packing of foodstuffs for domestic consumption. In general, however, the prohibitions on its use will not apply to goods destined for export. Since every effort is being made to keep Netherlands exports at high levels, tinplate will be available, for the present, for important exports such as condensed milk and meat products.

U. S. IMPORTS DUTCH EGGS

The first shipments of what is reported to be the first postwar export of eggs from the Netherlands to the United States were made on April 21. These shipments are part of the 10,000 cases (30 dozen eggs per case) recently contracted for by a United States importer.

The current prices for eggs in the United States permit the Netherlands to export these eggs and thereby gain dollars for defense purposes.

TURKISH POULTRY SITUATION

Exports of eggs from Turkey, historically an exporting country, decreased slightly in 1949 from the peak year of 1948 and continued to decline in 1950. Even so, exports remained well above the prewar average.

1/ From Foreign Trade (Ottawa) Vol. IX, No. 220, March 17, 1951.

Turkey: Egg production and exports, prewar and 1946-50

Year	Production	Exports
	(Mil. dozen)	(Mil. dozen)
1935/38	n.a.	7.4
1946	72	1.2
1947	76	9.3
1948	71	15.2
1949	71	13.9
1950	71	10.9

Greece is the chief purchaser of Turkish eggs, taking an average of about 7 million dozen annually during 1948-50. In 1950, Italy, Austria, Israel, and Switzerland were also important markets. Lebanon, Malta, France, Syria, and Hungary made relatively small purchases to bring the total value of Turkish egg exports to nearly 3 million dollars.

The United States and Turkey were competitors in 8 of the above named countries where in 1950 United States exports of about 7 million dozen eggs 1/ were valued at about 1.2 million dollars. Switzerland purchased 95 percent of the shell eggs and over half of the dried eggs included in this total. It is probable that the United States will not continue to have eggs for export to these countries at the relatively low price of 17 cents per dozen (for shell equivalent of both shell and dried eggs) as compared to 28 cents per dozen for Turkish eggs. If such is the case, Turkish exports, and those of other countries such as the Netherlands, to these markets may be expected to increase in 1951.

WOOL PRODUCTION IN PERU INCREASES

Production of sheep's wool in Peru in 1951 will probably be up to 20.5 million pounds according to a report from Roy O. Westley, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Lima. Both sheep numbers and yield per sheep have been increasing over the past 2 years as a result of a very active program by sheep men in Peru towards better breeding, selection, and health improvement.

The interest in sheep raising is increasing to the extent that more operators are attempting to secure land for wool production.

1/ Shell equivalent, of which about 6 million dozen were dried eggs.

CORRECTION:

In the summary "Meat Production During 1950" in Foreign Crops and Markets of May 14, 1951, page 545, 11 lines down delete: "Irish meat outturn was 5 percent below 1949, while Denmark moderately increased production by the same percentage. Denmark is now slightly above prewar, but Ireland dropped 3 percent below the 1934-38 average."

CORRECTION:

In the article, "Canadian Butter and Cheese Support Program Announced" in Foreign Crops and Markets of May 14, 1951, page 561, the last sentence in the first paragraph should have read: "The support price for cheese is 28 cents per pound, plus storage charges to the date of delivery (not later than January 1, 1952)."

TOBACCO AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS

SOUTH AFRICA'S TOBACCO CONSUMPTION, STOCKS, EXPORTS HIGHER; IMPORTS LOWER

The Union of South Africa's 1950 tobacco consumption was 5 percent above 1949 and 32 percent above 1948, according to J. L. Dougherty, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Pretoria. Leaf stocks on December 31, 1950 were 15 percent above the total on the same date of the preceding year and 32 percent above the leaf stocks on December 31, 1948. Exports of tobacco and tobacco products during 1950 were 45 percent above 1949 and 27 percent above 1948. Imports of tobacco and tobacco products during 1950 were 45 percent above 1949 and 27 percent above 1948.

The country's 1950 tobacco consumption was 43.2 million pounds compared with 40.9 million in 1949 and 37.1 million in 1948. Of the 1950 consumption, cigarettes and pipe tobacco made up 91 percent of the total, snuff made up 6 percent, rolled tobacco about 2 percent and cigars the remaining 1 percent. Although the trend has been upward, most of the increase has occurred in cigarette and pipe tobaccos. Snuff and rolled tobacco consumption has shown no significant change while cigar consumption has been increasing since World War II.

Leaf stocks as of December 31, 1950 were 63.3 million pounds. This corresponds to 54.2 million pounds on hand on the same 1949 date and 47.0 million pounds on December 31, 1948. Flue-cured, the most important type of leaf, constituted 54 percent or 34.0 million pounds, dark air-cured ranked second with 27 percent or 16.6 million pounds, light air-cured third with 17 percent or 10.6 million pounds and Turkish last with about 2 percent or 1.0 million pounds.

Exports of manufactured and unmanufactured tobacco from South Africa totaled 3.7 million pounds in 1950. The 1949 tobacco exports totaled 2.5 million pounds compared with 2.9 million pounds in 1948.

Unmanufactured tobacco constituted 51 percent or 2.1 million pounds of the 1950 exports. Cigarettes made up 723,209 pounds, and smoking tobacco 837,921 pounds of the 1950 exports. South West Africa, the most important tobacco export outlet, took 950,522 pounds or 26 percent of all 1950 exports. The Netherlands, the second most important outlet, took 651,532 pounds or 17 percent; Belgian Congo, third most important, took 444,933 pounds or 12 percent and Israel, fourth, with 437,801 pounds or about 12 percent. The remaining 33 percent was taken in varying quantities by numerous other countries including, British Malaya, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, Australia, Egypt, Greece, Switzerland, Finland, Uruguay, the United States and others.

Imports of tobacco and tobacco products during 1950 totaled 4.6 million pounds compared with 5.1 million in 1949 and 4.9 million in 1948. Imports of unmanufactured tobacco constituted 93 percent or 4.3 million pounds, smoking tobacco made up 4 percent or 206,326 pounds, cigarettes about 2 percent or 82,450 pounds, and cigars, cigarillos and snuff the remaining 1 percent or 30,914 pounds. Southern Rhodesia, the most important source of unmanufactured tobacco supplied 3.6 million pounds, or 78 percent of all tobacco imports. Northern Rhodesia, second most important source, supplied 584,597 pounds or 12 percent of total tobacco imports. The remaining 10 percent was supplied by numerous other countries including the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and India.

CANARY ISLAND'S TOBACCO IMPORTS LOWER

The Canary Island's 1950 leaf imports were 74 percent below 1949 according to William B. Snidow, Vice Consul, American Embassy, Tenerife.

The country's 1950 leaf imports totaled 586,394 pounds compared with 2,239,000 pounds in 1949. The United States, the most important source, supplied 205,005 pounds or 35 percent of all 1950 leaf imports. Southern Rhodesia, second most important source, supplied 180,948 pounds or 31 percent; Spain, ranked third, supplying 125,299 pounds or 21 percent, and the Dominican Republic was fourth with 58,567 pounds or 10 percent. The remaining 3 percent was supplied by Cuba and Indonesia. In addition to leaf, the Canary Islands reportedly imported 85,000 pounds of cigarettes on which certain taxes were paid; however, it is believed that additional large quantities of cigarettes were imported clandestinely.

The Canary Islands exported 259.0 million cigarettes and 7.7 million cigars. All exports went to Spain or Spanish West Africa.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION REVISED DOWNWARD; EXPORTS LOWER

The Dominican Republic's 1950-51 crop is now estimated at 25 percent below an earlier forecast, according to Harry R. Zerbel, Second Secretary, American Embassy, Ciudad Trujillo. Exports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1950 was 31 percent below 1949.

The country's 1950-51 tobacco crop is now placed at 33.1 million pounds compared with an earlier forecast of 44.1 million pounds. Leaf harvest in 1949-50 totaled 48.4 million pounds. This downward revision in production was attributed to drought which began in December.

Exports of unmanufactured tobacco in 1950 totaled 31.9 million pounds as compared to 46.2 million pounds in 1949. Spain, the most important 1950 export outlet took 13.7 million pounds; Belgium, second most important outlet, took 5.0 million pounds; the Netherlands, ranked third with 4.3 million pounds, and Germany was fourth with 1.8 million pounds. The remaining 7.1 million pounds were shipped in varying quantities to numerous other destinations including Gibraltar, Canal Zone, Tunisia, Uruguay, Spanish Morocco, Indochina and Algeria.

According to the Dominican Bureau of Statistics, domestic cigarette production during 1950 totaled 672.6 million cigarettes as compared to 689.6 million in 1949. The Dominican Republic's 1950 cigar production totaled 35.7 million cigars or 3.2 million more than the 1949 total of 32.0 million.

INDONESIA'S EMBARGO ON COFFEE EXPORTS LIFTED

The embargo placed by the Indonesian Government in January 1951 on exports of Robusta coffee has been lifted for certain areas, according to the Indonesian Consulate General in New York. However, exports from these districts are not permitted to exceed certain fixed quotas.

The Consulate further states that the exportation of Arabica coffee from Indonesia always has been, and still is permitted. It was erroneously reported in an earlier issue of Foreign Crops and Markets that the Indonesian Government had prohibited the exportation of all types of coffee.

OUTLOOK FAVORABLE FOR BRAZIL'S 1951-52 CACAO CROP

Brazil's intermediate 1951-52 cacao crop, now being harvested, is expected to total about 138 million pounds, substantially more than the output of around 95 million pounds from the last intermediate harvest, according to George Hasselman, American Consulate, Bahia. The 1950-51 intermediate crop was later and smaller than usual because of excessive rains early in 1950.

It is much too early to forecast the size of the main 1951-52 cacao crop to be harvested from October 1951 to January 1952. If it is as large as the last main crop, Brazil's total cacao production in 1951-52 will probably amount to about 337 million pounds, compared with a revised estimate of 294 million pounds in 1950-51, 357 million in 1949-50, 276 million in 1948-49, and a prewar (1935-36 to 1939-40) annual average of 264 million pounds.

Stocks of cacao beans in Brazil on April 1, 1951 were estimated at only about 4 million pounds as compared with stocks of 37 million pounds on April 1, 1950.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

ARGENTINA INCREASES PRICE TO GRAIN PRODUCERS

Argentine grain producers are to share in profits from export sales of grain in future, according to a Presidential announcement of May 3. The export profit is to go to growers, after deducting handling costs and setting aside a reserve to assure the successful marketing of future crops. Increased grain acreage is the aim of the Argentine Government. Widespread discontent over prices paid producers in recent years was reported to have threatened to reduce the area planted this season. Seeding of small grains is now beginning actively.

Corn, which the Government had difficulty in buying under the old price of $1.22 per bushel at the current rate of exchange, is to have increased immediately to $1.37 per bushel, with the promise to producers of a share in the ultimate profits. This may do much to induce deliveries to the Government's official agency rather than selling on the market for domestic use at the current rate of $1.52 per bushel.

The corn harvest, which began about April, is now estimated to be smaller than forecast earlier. Unofficial estimates now place the crop at a maximum of 140 million bushels. Low yields are reported from most of the important corn areas and the average from the country as a whole is not expected to exceed the prewar average of about 28 bushels per acre, harvested. A scarcity of ears and poorly-filled ears are attributed to heavy rains during pollinization. The heavy rains were preceded and followed by hot winds and dry weather.

Carry-over of old corn on April 1 was nominal, probably not over 3 million bushels. It is estimated the total supply for the current season will provide an exportable supply of only about 40 million bushels. Though sharply below normal exports, this would be double the small exports during the past season when the crop was a virtual failure.

The abandonment was relatively large this season, high harvest costs and labor scarcity having made the harvest of many low-yielding fields unprofitable. Increased use of hybrid varieties, as well as more widespread use of harvesting machinery, may alleviate that problem in coming seasons. No rapid change seems likely, however, since there is a scarcity of domestic hybrid seed and there are severe limitations on imports of seed and machinery.

U.S. RICE EXPORTS DECLINE

Exports of milled rice from the United States during the August-March period of the current marketing season totaled 7,122,000 bags (of 100 pounds), a decline of 11 percent from the corresponding period of the preceding year. Shipments increased to Cuba, Venezuela, Switzerland and Greece. Total exports to the European continent were smaller, however, as they were also to Japan, Indonesia, Canada and British West Indies.

RICE: United States exports to specified countries, March 1951, with comparisons 1/

Continent and country	August-July		August-March		March	
	1937-38 to 1941-42	1949-50	1949-50	1950-51 2/	1950	1951 2/
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Switzerland..	41	110	71	89	10	4
Austria......	3/	47	47	0	0	-
Greece.......	64	224	113	196	4/	4/
Belgium and Luxembourg.	66	277	237	162	2	2
Other Europe.	257	49	45	12	3	2
Total......	428	707	513	459	15	8
Cuba.........	2,750	6,119	4,337	5,789	142	472
Canada.......	194	469	381	319	32	68
Venezuela....	20	220	148	153	38	62
Br. W. Indies	4/	121	115	21	4	3
Philippines..	4/	18	18	0	1	0
Indonesia....	5/	1,733	1,732	3	0	0
Japan........	5/	1,366	437	195	4/	2
Other countries..	190	467	359	183	13	27
Total......	3,582	11,220	8,040	7,122	245	642

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice, and rough rice converted to milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Not separately classified. 4/ Less than 500 bags. 5/ If any, included in "other countries."

Bureau of the Census.

March exports totaled 642,000 bags compared with 245,000 bags in the corresponding month a year earlier. Shipments to Cuba, the principal market, accounted for 74 percent of the total. Canada, Venezuela and Liberia were other important countries of destination.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

U.S. COTTON EXPORTS LOWER IN MARCH

Exports of cotton from the United States in March totaled 368,000 bales of 500 pounds gross (354,000 running bales), compared with 447,000 (429,000 running bales) in the previous month. The slower movement in March is attributed mainly to the suspension of most sales activity while the cotton exchanges were closed during January 29 through March 7, 1951. Exports of 3,062,000 bales (2,932,000 running bales) during August-March 1950-51 are 22 percent below the total of 3,909,000 (3,755,000 running bales) for a similar period in 1949-50.

Exports to European countries, amounting to 1,545,000 bales during the 8 months under review, were 41 percent below the 2,641,000 bales for a similar period a year ago. Exports to other countries rose from 1,268,000 to 1,517,000 bales, an increase of 20 percent, due almost entirely to sharp increases in exports to Canada (not subject to export control) and to Japan.

United States cotton export allocations now total 3,696,000 bales (500 pounds gross) including the 200,000 bales allocated on April 30, 1951. Adding an estimate of 425,000 bales for exports (not controlled) to Canada and 130,000 for exports prior to imposition of controls, to countries not receiving export allocations, it appears that total exports in 1950-51 will approximate 4,250,000 bales.

Licenses for exportation have been issued for all except 284,000 of the 3,696,000 bales allocated to date according to a report released on May 16 by the Office of International Trade, U.S. Department of Commerce. Most of the remaining quantity is composed of cotton allocated on April 30 (200,000 bales) for which only a few licenses have yet been issued.--By Charles H. Barber.

(See accompanying table on following page).

UNITED STATES: Exports of cotton by countries of destination; averages 1934-38 and 1939-43; annual 1948-49 and 1949-50; August-March 1949-50 and 1950-51

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1				August-March	
	Averages					
	1934-38	1939-43	1948	1949	1949-50	1950-51
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Austria	0	1/	74	61	26	27
Belgium-Luxembourg	147	43	152	192	143	64
Czechoslovakia	65	0	36	58	43	6
Denmark	35	5	30	34	23	19
Finland	35	11	35	3	3	1
France	589	154	676	794	592	271
Germany	579	4	504	759	454	368
Greece	2	2	12	50	22	1
Italy	430	12	652	749	482	263
Netherlands	86	34	195	259	175	86
Norway	13	6	17	8	6	14
Poland and Danzig	224	1	95	47	28	1
Spain	101	117	70	66	41	50
Sweden	93	53	2/	29	18	31
Switzerland	2	14	38	41	35	21
United Kingdom	1,097	987	781	607	505	279
Yugoslavia	10	7	42	26	20	41
Other Europe	3/ 85	146	4/ 64	5/ 38	25	2
Total Europe	3,593	1,596	3,473	3,821	2,641	1,545
Canada	261	294	307	286	182	300
Chile	6/	5	60	39	31	28
Colombia	17	9	53	63	33	37
Cuba	7	11	8	19	18	19
India	44	18	3	407	201	156
China	55	106	282	132	89	54
Japan	1,271	216	652	929	534	774
Fr. Indochina and Fr. India	6/	14	8	11	6	10
Korea	6/	N.A.	34	52	28	14
Australia	5	20	0	0	0	0
Other countries	43	7	7/ 81	8/ 243	146	125
Total	5,296	2,296	4,961	6,002	3,909	3,062

1/ Included with Germany. 2/ Less than 500 bales. 3/ Includes 39 Portugal. 23 Soviet Union. 4/ Includes 28 Soviet Union, 14 Rumania, 6 Bulgaria, 6 Hungary. 5/ Hungary 24. 6/ If any, included in "Other countries." 7/ Includes 29 Hong Kong, 11 Palestine. 8/ Includes 143 Hong Kong, 41 Manchuria. 9/ Includes 27 Hong Kong and 18 Manchuria.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

NETHERLANDS COTTON IMPORTS DECLINE

Imports of cotton into the Netherlands, during the first 6 months of the marketing year, ended January 31, 1951 totaled 123,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight). Of this amount, 65,000 bales, or 53 percent, originated in the United States, while almost 13,000 bales were Egyptian cotton. Slightly more than 4,000 bales were imported directly from the Belgian Congo, although it is believed that a large part of the 25,000 bales trans-shipped through Belgium originated in the Congo. Under the United States cotton export controls, the Netherlands has received allocations of United States cotton during 1950-51 season to date, totaling 163,000 bales. Imports of 327,000 bales during 1949-50 were unusually large, with imports from the United States amounting to 246,000 bales. This is more than 70 percent above imports from this country in any previous postwar season.

Consumption of cotton in the Netherlands reached a record level of 280,000 bales in 1949-50. During August through December 1950 the cotton textile mills consumed 111,000 bales of cotton. Assuming this rate of consumption continues through the remainder of 1950-51, the total consumption will be around 265,000 bales, somewhat below the level of the preceding season.

NETHERLANDS: Imports of raw cotton by countries of origin;
annual 1946-47 through 1949-50;
August-January 1949-50 and 1950-51

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of origin	Year beginning August 1				August-January	
	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1949-50	1950-51
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Mexico	5.4	22.2	19.1	.7	.2	3.1
United States	103.6	68.8	142.1	245.9	102.3	65.4
Brazil	38.2	39.7	10.4	2.9	1.2	1/
Peru	8.9	14.9	6.9	1/	1/	3.5
Belgium	10.4	1.5	4.7	35.5	10.8	25.1
India	27.0	21.0	23.2	12.3	7.3	2.1
Belgian Congo	2.4	15.2	16.0	3.6	1.9	4.3
Egypt	6.4	8.3	9.4	12.5	4.3	12.6
Other countries	14.3	11.3	6.2	2/ 13.2	3/ 6.5	4/ 7.0
Total	216.6	202.9	238.0	326.6	134.5	123.1

1/ If any, included in "Other countries". 2/ Pakistan 9.6. 3/ Pakistan 4.8.
4/ Argentina 2.9.

Compiled from Maandstatistick Van de In-Uit-En Doorvoer Van Nederland.

The combination of a decline in imports and the high level of consumption has caused stocks to decrease from 98,000 bales on August 1, 1950, to 81,000 bales on December 31, 1950. Perhaps more important, however, was the decline in stocks of United States cotton from more than 70 percent of the total at the beginning of the 1950-51 season to only 45 percent at the end of the first 5 months.

Cotton spindles in place in 1949, the latest year for which figures are available, totaled 1.2 million. This compares with 1.24 million in 1939 and 1.16 million in 1929. The capacity of the somewhat smaller number of spindles in 1949 was equal to that of 1939, however, because of improved methods of operation.--By J. E. Manger, based in part on a report by W.A. Luykx, Agricultural Investigator, American Embassy, The Hague.

LATE NEWS

(Continued from Page 567)

Canadian farmers have indicated, on the basis of their planting intentions as of April 30, that the 1951 acreage in grains in Canada will be as follows, with last year's acreage comparison in parentheses - all in thousand acres: Wheat 26,038 (27021); oats 12038 (11575); barley 7674 (6625); rye 1242 (1168); flaxseed 1045 (547). This net increase of 1.1 million acres in grain and flaxseed compared with the 1950 acreage would come largely from summerfallow. Intended summerfallow of 20,275,000 acres compares with 20,998,000 acres in 1950.

Acreage in the important producing Prairie Province area was indicated as follows, in thousand acres: wheat 24927 (25,836); oats 7925 (7446); barley 7252 (6205); rye 1137 (1062); flaxseed 1021 (525). Canada's reported summerfallow is all in the Prairie Provinces.

Warm dry weather prevailed throughout the Prairie Provinces during the second week of May, and good seeding progress was reported in most areas. Moisture supplies were generally good to excellent.

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1951	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound	
					Spot quotation	Export and intermediate taxes
Alexandria		Kantar				
Ashmouni, Good	5-17	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	1/ 118.25	68.54	11.82
Ashmouni, FGF	"	"	"	1/ 98.25	56.95	11.82
Karnak, Good	"	"	"	1/ 165.45	95.90	11.82
Karnak, FGF	"	"	"	1/ 146.20	84.75	11.82
Bombay		Candy				
Jarila, Fine	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	2/ 770.00	20.50	21.30
Broach Vijay, Fine	"	"	"	2/ 840.00	22.36	21.30
Karachi		Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine	5-16	82.28 lbs.	"	125.00	45.83	23.09
289F Sind, SG, Fine	"	"	"	129.00	47.30	23.09
289F Punjab, SG, Fine	"	"	"	147.00	53.90	23.09
Buenos Aires		Metric ton				
Type B	5-17	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	3/ 8000.00	72.58	6.77
Lima		Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2	5-15	101.4 lbs.	Sol	695.00	45.84	23.36
Tanguis, Type 5	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Pima, Type 1	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Recife		Arroba				
Mata, Type 4	5-17	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	3/ 395.00	64.99	2.4% ad valorem
Sertao, Type 5	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Sertao, Type 4	"	"	"	3/ 415.00	68.28	" "
Sao Paulo						
Sao Paulo, Type 5	"	"	"	405.00	66.63	3.0% ad valorem
Torreon		Sp. quintal				
Middling, 15/16"	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	(not available)		
Houston-Galveston-New Orleans av.Mid. 15/16"	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	44.86	----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Prices omitted from last week's table: Alexandria, May 10, 1951, in tallaris per kantar with U.S. cents per pound in parentheses, Ashmouni, Good, 119.10 (69.03); Ashmouni, FGF, 101.35 (58.74); Karnak, Good, 165.55 (95.96); Karnak, FGF, 146.05 (84.65); tax 11.82 cents. Torreon, May 10, 1951, not available.

2/ Ceiling price.

3/ Nominal.